

6 November 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration
Deputy Director for Operations
Inspector General

SUBJECT: Restricted Handling of Cables and Documents

1. I am deeply concerned about the extent to which we resort to restricted handling practices related to extremely sensitive operational traffic. On the one hand, I recognize the need for very secure and highly compartmented procedures to protect the sensitivity of such traffic.
2. On the other hand, it is clear from the perspective of the 1975 reviews and investigations that we should not be dependent upon a system which is incapable of permitting quick and accurate retrieval of cables and files which suddenly become the subject of internal or external curiosity.
3. I would think there must be a way to devise a system which permits special handling of operational matters while at the same time insuring that cables and documents are logged, abstracted, and subject to retrieval even though access may be extremely limited.
4. I have a further concern in this day and age of heightened internal command and control at DCI and DDCI levels--there is currently no process by which restricted handling cables are automatically reviewed for possible selection for forwarding to the DDCI and DCI for information or action. This too should be built into a new and different kind of system.
5. Can you officers please consult and see what can be done to meet some of these concerns. In assisting your efforts in this regard I would be glad to make available the services and advice of the Executive Secretary,

NEGATIVE REGISTRY FILE

DDCI

E. H. Knoche
DDCI

cc: Executive Secretary

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